

HONORING THE MEMORY OF KAHU  
MELVIN KAUILA CLARK

**HON. COLLEEN HANABUSA**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 15, 2018*

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary man, Melvin Kauila Clark, who passed away on Sunday, December 24, 2017. A talented artist, Native Hawaiian traditional healer, celebrated leader of the community health center movement, and a personal friend of mine, Kauila will be deeply missed by the many people whose lives he has touched.

Kauila grew up in Wahiawa on the island of Oahu and graduated from Leilehua High School in 1963. Kauila went on to earn a bachelor's degree in drawing and painting from Graceland University and a master's degree in clay and sculpture from the University of Puget Sound. He became an internationally acclaimed artist and potter, with his works exhibited in 53 countries and museums, including in the Smithsonian here in Washington. I always admired Kauila's pottery because they reflected who he was so well. His pieces were big but also delicate, reflecting both the strength of his character and the gentle kindness of his heart. Kauila's willingness to share and donate his pieces to raise money for the communities around him demonstrated his wonderful generosity of spirit.

In Hawaii, Kauila will be fondly remembered as a Native Hawaiian traditional healer who shared his wisdom with all who sought it. He rightfully believed that the diverse communities of the United States could learn much from traditional indigenous knowledge of balance and harmony. Unsurprisingly, even though Kauila was a kahuna, a "keeper of secrets," one of the select few certified to hold that title, he preferred to be called kahu, or "priest."

A passionate advocate of the community health center movement, Kauila has dedicated much of his life towards ensuring that Americans of all backgrounds across the country receive culturally competent, patient-centered health care. Kauila and I got to know each other over the course of his work on healthcare with the Waianae community, since Kauila and I were both part of the hānai family of Auntie Agnes "Aggie" Kalaniho'okaha Cope, who first founded the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Care Center. Kauila continued Auntie Aggie's work by serving as board director of the Waianae Coast Comprehensive Health Center for twenty-seven years.

Kauila dedicated much of the past nineteen years to the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC). Over the course of his distinguished service, he served on the Consumer/Board Member, Finance, Farmworker Health, Membership, Health Center Governance, Nominating, and Screening Committees at various points in time. Between 2005 and 2008, Kauila was treasurer for NACHC. Kauila became chair-elect of NACHC in 2009, board chair in 2011, and immediate past chair in 2015, the first Native Hawaiian to hold those positions in NACHC.

In everything he did, Kauila thought about his sons, whom he loved deeply. We used to talk about his sons and how they were growing up. I especially remember one conversa-

tion in which we chatted about how Tiger Woods's success was influencing Kauila's sons towards golf and away from football. Kauila was the grounding for his family, and it was always apparent to me that his kids came first in his heart and in everything he did.

Much can be said of the art, wisdom, and leadership that Kauila shared with the world. He will be fondly remembered and deeply missed by the people whom he encouraged, counseled, inspired, and healed. With cherished memories of Kauila in our hearts, we will continue his life's work for a better, kinder world.

90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
AMERICAN GOLD STAR MOTHERS

**HON. FRANCIS ROONEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 15, 2018*

Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 90th anniversary of the founding of the American Gold Star Mothers. American Gold Star Mothers dates to 1928 and was founded under the Wilson Administration by Grace Darling Seibold. In 1917, during WWI, families hung banners displaying a blue star for each loved one serving overseas and a gold star for each of those loved ones that made the ultimate sacrifice. Today, the American Gold Star Mothers organization continues to aid and comfort the families of men and women who died while serving their country.

On March 24th the Southwest Florida Gold Star Mothers Chapter will hold an event commemorating the 90th anniversary of the American Gold Star Mothers and the 2nd observance of the National Vietnam War Veterans Day. We honor those mothers and families who have lost sons and daughters in recent conflicts around the world, and thank the Southwest Florida chapter for all they do for our fallen heroes and our community.

RECOGNIZING DIABETES ALERT  
DAY

**HON. JOHN KATKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 15, 2018*

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the American Diabetes Association Alert Day. Observed annually on the fourth Tuesday in March, this is a day to inform the American public about the seriousness of Type 2 diabetes, particularly when left undiagnosed or untreated.

I would like to thank the American Diabetes Association, as well as numerous other organizations and researchers, who work to raise awareness of this far-reaching disease and seek an eventual cure.

Diabetes affects over 30 million Americans—almost 10 percent of the U.S. population—and nearly 1 in 4 adults are unaware that they have this disease. What's more, another 84 million Americans have prediabetes, a condition in which blood glucose levels are higher than normal, but not high enough to be diagnosed as diabetes. 9 out of 10 adults with

prediabetes are unaware of their condition and susceptibility to developing diabetes.

Whether it is a parent, child, sibling, grandparent, or neighbor, we all know someone who struggles daily with the medical upkeep of living with diabetes. That is why I join the American Diabetes Association in strongly encouraging all Americans to take the time today to learn more about Type 2 diabetes, its wide-ranging impact upon our nation and its citizens, and the susceptibility to this disease. Testing can take only 60 seconds and results can make a lifetime of difference.

I applaud the American Diabetes Association, for raising awareness about the potentially life-threatening complications associated with diabetes, and their advocacy to promote a healthy lifestyle.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF  
COLONEL JAMES D. DIGNAN

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 15, 2018*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and honor the recent retirement of Colonel James Dignan from the United States Air Force and to congratulate him on his new role as President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber in Ohio. Colonel Dignan concluded his service in the Air Force working in the office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for force readiness.

Colonel Dignan received his commission through the Naval Aviation Cadet (NAVCAD) program at the Aviation Officer Candidate School at NAS Pensacola, Florida, and he received his "Wings of Gold" at NAS Corpus Christi, Texas. He has served as an officer and pilot in the United States Navy, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve. Colonel Dignan was a command pilot with more than 6,500 hours in trainer, patrol, reconnaissance, and airlift aircraft. He has flown more than 100 hurricane penetration missions in the WC-130 and has flown combat-support missions throughout the Balkans, the Horn of Africa, and Southwest Asia. Colonel Dignan was also the commander of the 910th Airlift Wing at the Youngstown Air Reserve Station in Youngstown, Ohio. Under his leadership, he oversaw more than 1,300 personnel and was in charge of operations which provided support for nearly 2,000 Air Force, Navy, and Marine Reservists.

Now, Dignan will begin his new role as President and CEO of the Youngstown/Warren Regional Chamber. He wanted to remain in Youngstown, Ohio with his wife and three daughters who also desired to stay in the Youngstown area. His new role will allow him to continue serving the Mahoning Valley region alongside the people he loves. Dignan's managerial skills along with his past association as a Chamber board member demonstrated his ability to hit the ground running. He will be an influential voice and leader within the community, and I am enthused to work with him in his new role.

REMEMBERING MILLIE DUNN  
VEASEY

**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 15, 2018*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Millie Dunn Veasey, a World War II veteran, civil rights pioneer, and community leader, who passed away this past Friday at the age of 100. My wife Lisa and I extend condolences to her family and her extensive network of friends and admirers as we celebrate her remarkable life.

Born and raised in Raleigh as one of six children, Millie graduated from Washington High School in 1942 and enlisted in the "six-triple-eight" battalion, the only all-female and all-black battalion to serve overseas during World War II. She was stationed in England for four months before transferring to France where she served as a supply officer, rising to the rank of Staff Sergeant. At the end of the war in 1945, she was selected for Officer Candidate School, but decided instead to continue her education.

Millie returned to Raleigh to attend Saint Augustine's College on the G.I. Bill. She graduated in 1953 with a degree in business administration and later obtained a master's degree at N.C. Central University. She taught business education and eighth grade English for four years in Matthews, Virginia, before returning to Raleigh to serve as secretary to then-President of Saint Augustine's College, James Boyer.

In addition to her secretarial duties, Millie joined the NAACP and eventually became the first African American female president of the Wake County chapter. In that role, she came to know and work with local and national civil rights leaders such as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Thurgood Marshall and hosted Dr. King for his 1966 visit to Raleigh. In addition to her work in the NAACP, she served in leadership roles in her sorority, Zeta Phi Beta, and was active in the National Federation of Democratic Women and the American Legion. She and her husband, Warren Veasey, had two children, Juanita and Warren, Jr.

Mrs. Veasey retired from St. Augustine's in 1986 as director of career planning and placement. She continued to serve her community by teaching Sunday school at St. Ambrose Episcopal Church and was a mainstay of the Raleigh veterans' community. I have fond memories of visiting with her at community events around Veterans' Day. "It's something about the group," she said of her fellow veterans. "Regardless of where you are, there is a bond there that one can never break."

In an interview in the Raleigh News & Observer, Mrs. Veasey offered sage advice for living a meaningful life: "Keep busy and do something for somebody." She exemplified this maxim through her decades of dedicated service and effective leadership, inspiring many to follow in her path. We join with Mrs. Veasey's family, her many friends and admirers, and members of the communities she served, in mourning her passing and honoring her extraordinary life of leadership and service.

GO BUCS

**HON. FRANCIS ROONEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 15, 2018*

Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to not only congratulate the Florida SouthWestern State College men's basketball team as they head to the NJCAA tournament for the first time in only their second season of competition, but also to wish them continued success throughout the tournament.

The Bucs clinched the Suncoast Conference Title and head to Kansas with a 29–2 overall record on the season. They are seeded sixth in the tournament. I congratulate Coach Marty Richter and all of the players for their hard work this season—best of luck and continue to make us proud.

**HONORING THE CAREER OF  
STEPHEN A. ROGERS**

**HON. JOHN KATKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 15, 2018*

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the distinguished career of Stephen A. Rogers, longtime chairman of Advance Media New York, publisher of The Post-Standard, Syracuse.com, and NYup.com, who recently retired after 58 years in the news business.

A graduate of Syracuse University, Steve Rogers began working part time at The Post-Standard and The Herald-Journal in 1960 as a beat reporter covering crime. Seeking independence from his father, Stephen Rogers, then-editor and publisher of The Post-Standard, Rogers went to work for The Miami Herald as a general assignment reporter. Determined, Rogers worked hard to become The Miami Herald's managing editor for news. In 1977, he returned to Syracuse to become editorial director of The Post-Standard and The Herald-Journal. Four years later, in 1981, Steve succeeded his father as editor and publisher of both newspapers.

During his time leading the company, the newspapers won recognition for reporting on state government failures, Syracuse University basketball NCAA violations, and the Pan Am Flight 103 bombing over Lockerbie, Scotland. Under Rogers' leadership, The Post-Standard has consistently ranked as one of the best-read newspapers in the country.

For the first time in 63 years, the name of Rogers or his late father, Stephen Rogers, who preceded him as publisher, will no longer appear on The Post-Standard's masthead. As a lifelong Central New Yorker, I join many in our community in thanking Steve for his leadership and passion for journalism. I am proud to congratulate him on his much deserved retirement.

THE SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE SYRIAN CRISIS

**HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 15, 2018*

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today marks the start of the eighth year for the Syrian crisis. We are no closer to a peaceful resolution to the conflict. Arguably, the situation has only gotten worse, particularly in Eastern Ghouta where the Assad regime is doubling down on its bombings and chemical attacks on civilians. The International Committee of the Red Cross proclaims that suffering in Eastern Ghouta has reached a "critical point," stating that "ordinary people are once again trapped in a situation where life slowly becomes impossible and where goods and aid are severely limited."

Before the war, the country was, by Arab standards, solidly middle income with vibrant communities. Today, Syria's development has regressed by nearly four decades, and the Syrian economy has contracted by an estimated 40 percent. The majority of Syrians have lost their livelihoods. School attendance has dropped over 50 percent with more than two million children now out of school. An estimated 13.5 million people, including six million children, are in need of serious humanitarian assistance. 4.5 million of these people are in hard-to-reach areas, including 540,000 people in eleven besieged areas. The numbers are staggering. And we all know the images are beyond words.

Meanwhile, Assad and Putin continue to indiscriminately target civilians in all locations, as well as civilian hospitals, despite a late February UN resolution calling for a cessation of hostilities to enable humanitarian access to those in need of aid.

These atrocities led me to introduce H. Res. 632, which condemns Assad and Putin for their attacks on hospitals and medical personnel in Syria, and calls on our Secretary of State to work with the international community to conduct investigations into these serious violations of international humanitarian law.

The United States must send a clear message to Assad and Putin that the international community is watching and we will hold them accountable. As the fighting enters its eighth year, I urge this administration to complete a comprehensive U.S. strategy for Syria that specifically addresses civilian protection and these attacks on humanitarian service providers.

**HAPPY 90TH BIRTHDAY BEVERLY  
GOLDFINE**

**HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 15, 2018*

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to a distinguished member of the Duluth community, Beverly Goldfine, who will soon be celebrating her 90th birthday. Beverly is an activist, volunteer, and mother who made it her mission early on in life to support and improve the Duluth community she loves so much.

Beverly has been active in many Duluth area organizations which help those in need